

referendum showed overwhelming support for independence, Indonesian loyalists murdered hundreds and reduced towns to ruins.

An international peacekeeping force halted the mayhem and paved the way for the United Nations to help East Timor back onto its feet. With U.N. assistance, the East Timorese have been rebuilding their nation. They have held their first democratic election, drafted and adopted their country's first constitution, and adopted their national flag and national anthem. On May 20, 2002, the United Nations handed over the reins to the newly established democratic government, and East Timor stands on its feet as the first new, free nation of the millennium.

Although the rebuilding of East Timor has been one of the U.N.'s more successful stories, East Timor is expected to remain reliant on outside help for many years since its poor infrastructure has been destroyed and it is drought-prone. According to a recent report, 41 percent of East Timorese live in poverty and 48 percent are illiterate. East Timor also faces the challenge of repatriating a large refugee population—approximately 55,000 East Timorese refugees continue to live in deplorable conditions in an environment of intimidation in Indonesia.

With this situation in mind, the world community's support for East Timor's future is critical over the next several years. The U.S. should work with the U.N. and its members to make sure the job of preparing East Timor for self-rule is completed. The U.S. and the world should ensure that children receive a quality education, adequate healthcare and shelter, and that other needs for a decent standard of living are met. This is especially crucial in light of the recently released UNDP report that classified East Timor as one of the 20 poorest countries in the world and the poorest in Asia.

It is equally important though, for East Timor to focus on the future. Now that the East Timorese people have their own independent nation they will need peaceful and constructive relations with their neighbor Indonesia and the international family of peaceful nations. I wish their new president, Mr. Xanana Gusmao, well as he continues to advocate a policy of reconciliation with Indonesia. He has said that his country must move on from the past and focus on issues such as education and healthcare.

Mr. Gusmao's vision and the will of the East Timorese people provide great hope and potential for East Timor as it faces these challenges. And as they do, let them know that the U.S. and other free, democratic nations will continue to offer our friendship and steadfast support.

So it is with great pride and honor that I recognize the dogged determination and perseverance of the East Timorese people, congratulate them on the birth of their free and democratic nation—the first new nation of this

new millennium, and welcome them into the family of peaceful nations.

WARTIME VIOLATION OF ITALIAN AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES ACT

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, on October 19, 2000, more than 50 years after the end of World War II, Congress passed the Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act. I am pleased to have been the Senate sponsor of that bill which directed the U.S. Department of Justice to study the treatment of Italian-Americans at the hand of the Federal Government during the War and to deliver a report on its findings to the Congress.

This report has now been completed. The 42-page report, prepared by the Department's Civil Rights Division concludes: "After the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, citizens and aliens of Italian-American descent were subjected to restrictions, including curfews, searches, confiscations of property, the loss of livelihood, and internment." While the report can obviously not undo the injustices suffered by Italian Americans in the past, it is important that mistakes of the past be understood and acknowledged so that they are not repeated. This report will finally shine light on a largely unknown era of this nation's history—the injustices perpetrated by our government against thousands of Americans of Italian descent during the war.

While most Americans are aware of the mass evacuation and internment of Americans of Japanese descent shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on 1941, very few are aware that because the United States was also at war with Mussolini's Italy, approximately 250 Americans of Italian descent were arrested and detained in internment camps throughout the United States. Like Japanese Americans, the internees were not informed of the charges against them or provided legal counsel, and the vast majority were arrested and detained without any evidence that they had done anything wrong. Their only crime was their Italian heritage or their involvement in Italian organizations.

By early 1942, all Italian immigrants, estimated to be approximately 600,000 people, were labeled "enemy aliens" and were forced to register at local post offices around the country. They were fingerprinted, photographed and required to carry photo-bearing "enemy alien registration cards" at all times. Their travel was restricted to no further than five miles from their home and any "signaling devices"—cameras, shortwave radios, flashlights—or weapons were considered contraband and had to be turned in to authorities or were confiscated.

Italian Americans living on the West coast were subject to a curfew from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. and some were forced to evacuate areas the military deemed sensitive military zones, leaving their homes and jobs behind. Ironically, in

areas where Italian Americans were the majority population, these restrictions caused serious employment and food-supply problems at a time when all human and food resources were needed for the war effort.

The injustices suffered by Italian Americans during the war touched all socioeconomic classes. The parents of baseball legend Joe DiMaggio were forbidden to go any further than five miles from their home without a permit. Enrico Fermi, a leading Italian physicist who was instrumental in America's development of the atomic bomb, could not travel freely along the East Coast. The most disturbing irony was that at the time these injustices were being perpetrated, Italian Americans were the largest immigrant group in the United States Armed Forces and were fighting abroad to defend this country.

Twelve years ago, Congress passed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 and rightfully admitted and apologized for the atrocities committed against American citizens and immigrants of Japanese ancestry during World War II. With the passage of the Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act, the truth has now been told about the mistreatment of Americans of Italian descent during the war. This should not only be important to the Italian-Americans whose rights were violated and unjustly disrupted during the war but to every American who values our Constitutional freedoms. By increasing our Nation's awareness of these tragic events, we ensure that such discrimination will never happen again in this country.

NOTICES OF INTENTION

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, in accordance with rule V of the standing rules of the Senate, I hereby give notice of my intention to suspend rule 22 paragraph (2) for the purposes of offering amendment No. 3465.

In accordance with rule V of the standing rules of the Senate, I hereby give notice of my intention to suspend rule 22 paragraph (2) for the purposes of offering amendment No. 3463.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

JOSEPH LIMPRECHT, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

• Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I rise today to offer my thanks, the thanks of the U.S. Senate, and the thanks of the American people, to a dedicated public servant, Ambassador Joe Limprecht.

Ambassador Limprecht served as America's representative to Albania from 1999 until his death last week. At a challenging time in history, he was on the front lines of U.S. international outreach. He died while serving our Nation.